WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE

- We are the only independent agency involved in Delaware's child welfare system; it is neither part of the Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families nor an agency of Family Court.
- We are Governor-appointed volunteers.
- We are effective advocates for systemic changes in services.
- We utilize an in-depth review format that is not duplicated by any other review.
- We represent a diverse group of highly qualified volunteers who complete approximately 750 individual reviews annually, thus donating more than 3,500 hours of service at no cost to the state.
- We administer the Ivyane D.F. Davis Memorial Scholarship program, supporting post-secondary education for former foster children.
- We partner with DFS to administer the Federal Education Training and Voucher program for postsecondary education for youth aging out of foster care



To learn more about joining the

Child Placement Review Board

or for information on the

Ivyane D.F. Davis Scholarship

for former foster children,

contact:

Nancy Ripple

302-577-8750

William L. Murray, *Chair*Julia Pearce, *Executive Director*

Carvel State Office Building 820 North French Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801

THE CHILD PLACEMENT REVIEW BOARD

Of Delaware

WHO WE ARE
WHAT WE DO
HOW WE WORK
WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE



WHO WE ARE

- ❖ Founded in 1979 to provide a system of independent child placement reviews that ensure continuing efforts to obtain permanent homes for foster children and to prevent "foster care drift" where children languish in foster care.
- Trained volunteers with backgrounds as teachers, school counselors, principals, therapists, lawyers, nurses, social workers, foster parents, adoptive parents, and former foster children. Our members have also volunteered as mentors and advocates for children in a variety of community settings.
- A diverse group of people representing a broad range of experience, race, age, and income; this diversity allows our review committees to relate to the needs of children in many different situations.
- Independent of other state welfare agencies and the Family Court system, which allows us to analyze and make recommendations on system-wide improvements that benefit children.
- A positive voice in support of funding to reduce DFS case loads and prevent social worker turnover.
- A member of a national coalition working to improve foster care through foster care review programs.



WHAT WE DO

The work of the Board is to hold independent reviews of the care received by each foster child and to evaluate the plans made to find a permanent, safe, and healthy solution to that child's needs, whether the permanent solution involves reunification with the family, living with a relative, adoption, or a long-term, stable foster-care arrangement.

The role of the CPRB has been expanded to include reviews of adjudicated youth who have been placed in court-ordered treatment facilities by Family Court. These reviews focus on whether these young people are receiving the services that will allow them to return to their communities without danger to themselves or others.

The CPRB also holds "mixing reviews" designed to ensure that children in the custody of the state are not negatively impacted by being placed in settings with adjudicated youth.

The CPRB obtains a comprehensive picture of service delivery and system strengths and weaknesses. This information allows the CPRB to be an effective advocate for Delaware's children in care.

HOW WE WORK

- An Executive Committee provides direction and oversight to the work of the Board.
- Advocate for the services children need so that the goal of permanency for the child can be achieved.
- Membership is divided into 14 Review Committees. Reviews are conducted at a variety of sites throughout the state.
- Children are assigned to the same review committee over time so each child's situation is seen longitudinally.
- All interested parties are included in a respectful and non-adversarial review atmosphere.
- Summaries of the findings and recommendations from each child's review are submitted Division of Family Services and Family Court as part of the child's ongoing history.
- Training is conducted for Board members so they are familiar with emerging practices and trends in child welfare.
- Mentored and supported by professional staff.